Editorial Preview

Our practice of interviewing a senior executive regarding MIS returns with this issue. Herbert Halbrecht's interview of Richard Thomas, President, First National Bank of Chicago, continues our series of executive views of the MIS function.

A new slant for our journal is evidenced by the first two articles in the *Application Section.* Both are descriptions of actual systems, one at Inland Steel and the other at The First National Bank of Boston. In both articles, a system is described with concentration upon what it does for the user. Perhaps most important is that both authors, Mr. Lanahan and Mr. Synnott, give us exposure to their system building philosophy. Hopefully, these examples will encourage other practitioners to share what they are doing, why they chose to do it, and an evaluation of the result.

The final article in the *Application Section* is by one of our Associate Editors, Professor James A. Senn. This article focuses on some of the reasons systems fail and what can be done to improve matters.

The *Theory and Research Section* contains two articles which, although reporting research results, are very practical in nature. Steven Alter provides some very interesting insight into what happened when organizations attempted to implement Decision Support Systems. Another of our Associate Editors, Professor William R. King writing with Jaime Rodriquez, decribes the test of a procedure for evaluating information systems.

I would like to make it clear for the record that articles submitted to the **MIS Quarterly** by members of its editorial staff receive the same type of blind review and editorial processing as do manuscripts from other authors. In each case care is taken to ensure complete anonymity and independence. It is my feeling that by publishing material submitted by our editors we demonstrate the ideas and philosophy of those establishing our editorial policy. In this way we accomplish two things. First, we provide the fullest exposure of our policymakers to their audience. Second, we demonstrate, market test, if you prefer, the competence of our editors as writers and researchers.

Finally, I would like to note that we have now reversed an earlier situation with regard to manuscript submissions. Originally, we were in need of material for our *Application Section*. Now, would you believe, we could use more *Theory and Research* submissions.

GARY W. DICKSON
SENIOR EDITOR